

# The Jenga Green Library: A green building materials and services directory



## Introduction

The UNEP 2022 Global Status Report for Building and Construction emphasised the impending resource consumption crisis, with projections indicating a doubling of raw resource consumption by 2060. This alarming trend demands an immediate re-evaluation of our approach to construction materials.

The above is particularly important in rapidly growing developing economies, like Kenya, where construction materials are poised to become a significant contributor to resource consumption. What's more, greenhouse gas emissions associated with these materials are projected to double by 2060, underscoring the urgency to address the issue of embodied carbon<sup>1</sup> in buildings.

## Challenge

To realise the essential decarbonisation of the building materials sector, it is paramount for all stakeholders to assume greater responsibility in comprehending the environmental impact of their material selection decisions throughout the entire life cycle.

This necessitates providing relevant data to the appropriate stakeholders at critical decision-making stages during the construction process. Such information should encompass a wide range of options, ranging from low-carbon bio-based solutions to conventional materials with improved/decarbonised manufacturing methods.

## Solution

The Jenga Green Library is a flagship programme developed by the Kenya Green Building Society (KGBS) in collaboration with FSD Kenya that provides a **supply chain solution** by leveraging **technology** and **circularity** to create a compelling business case for sustainable construction.

The digital library serves as a centralised platform that showcases the entire supply chain of green building materials and services. It consolidates information on suppliers, dealers, retailers, service providers, and sustainable building consultants, creating a diverse and comprehensive network.



By bringing together these industry professionals and organisations, the library promotes collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and innovation, nurturing a vibrant ecosystem and business case for sustainable construction.

#### Through the Library, stakeholders:

- Are empowered to make informed decisions, supporting sustainable construction practices.
- Can verify suppliers and service providers aligned with their sustainability goals and journey.
- Save time and effort required to procure green building materials, enabling quicker and more informed decision-making.

## Results

160+ products  
20+ service providers  
600+ users

Jenga Green Library currently hosts 160+ products and 20+ service providers; and currently serves 600+ users.

Catalyst for transforming the construction industry

Jenga Green Library acts as a catalyst for transforming the construction industry, fostering a mindset shift towards sustainability and providing the necessary tools for its implementation.

## Testimonial

A notable example of a company using the Jenga Green App is Kenya Green Building Society member, Africa Logistics Properties (ALP), who has now been recognised as an IFC EDGE Champion, which serves as a compelling proof of concept. By sourcing materials under the guidance of the Jenga Green Library, ALP has successfully demonstrated the efficacy of building more sustainably and achieving green certification.



A notable example of a company using the Jenga Green App

## Key takeaways/lessons learned

The implementation of Jenga Green Library after its launch in April 2022 has yielded and will continue to yield far-reaching positive effects for the built environment.

With over a hundred companies that have embraced and continue to embrace this platform we can expect enhanced resource efficiency, reduced waste generation, and significant cost savings.

For more information about Jenga Green Library, visit [jengagreenlibrary.com](https://jengagreenlibrary.com)

For more news, views and publications about FSD Kenya's affordable housing work, visit <https://www.fsdkenya.org/category/affordable-housing/>



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